

DISC NEWSLETTER

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An Information Periodical For DISC Employees

Bureau of Info Systems— OS/390 Unit

By: Jay Coverdale



DISC operates a large IBM compatible mainframe computer center that services the data processing needs of many Executive Branch agencies in State Government. Agencies including SRS, KDOT, DofA, Dept of Revenue, and the Dept. of Human Resources use the mainframe to provide services to the citizens of Kansas in the areas of Health Care, Social services programs, Unemployment services, Motor vehicle renewal, and the State's accounts receivables program just to name a few. Approximately 10,000 State employees access the mainframe each day from all over Kansas. It also contains information shared with the federal government and

other States such as providing Kansas motor vehicle tag registration information to Highway patrolmen nation wide.

The OS/390 unit is responsible for installing and maintaining the mainframe operating system and a number of other programs that are associated with the operating system in the areas of storage management, security, and automated operations software. They work hard to ensure that the OS/390 mainframe software is running correctly and efficiently in order to meet the needs of their customers. The OS/390 unit consists of 7 Systems Software Programmers / Analyst's and one Systems Software Supervisor.

Susan Howarter, Lowell Chellberg, and Scott Bickel work closely together as a team supporting the OS/390 operating system, JES2, and Top Secret security software. They also support a number of products that control and maintain the disk storage environment and the Tivoli LAN backup solution.

Dan Rethman and David Dobber support the TCP/IP software running on all mainframe systems and also a number of communications related software products such as Net-View, Connect:Direct, and Outbound.

Jeanne Layport and Richard Escobar support

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Kansas Number 1 in IT

Kansas was chosen by the Center for Digital Government to be in the top position among all states surveyed in the areas of government IT.

We share the top spot with Illinois. Both

states tied for the most points.

The Governor will be presented with the award in January, but everyone working on IT in Kansas Government is responsible for it. Thank You!!!

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DISC NEWSLETTER

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many of the automated operations products including Jobtrac, CA-View, OPS/MVS, INSYNC, and Strobe. Richard also assists with the support of the Tivoli LAN backup solution.

Jay Coverdale supervises the OS/390 unit. He started his state service in the unit as a capacity planner in 1993 and moved into the supervisor position in 1996.

This unit works very hard to

Provide a mainframe processing environment that meets the needs of our customers. On behalf of the OS/390 unit we would like to wish you all a happy 2002.

Kansas GIS Top In The Country!

According to the final phase of the four-part Digital State Survey, Kansas leads the country in its use of geographic information systems (GIS). GIS has become a critical tool in emergency management, ground surveillance and military actions since the September 11 attacks.

Conducted by the Center for Digital Government, in conjunction with the Progress & Freedom Foundation and Government Technology magazine, this latest Digital State Survey assessed which states have the necessary infrastruc-

ture to create enterprise-wide access to GIS and transportation.

Kansas led the country with a perfect score of 100 points. The state started early by creating the Kansas GIS Policy Board in 1989. The board drew upon the expertise of 20 stakeholder groups to create data standards that were later incorporated into the Kansas Information Technology Architecture.

One of the state's most successful applications is the Department of Health and Environment's web site, which provides

information about potential groundwater contamination from the use of fertilizers in the farming state. "Adding that online GIS information has been a critical tool for citizens. It gave them a higher level of assurance that we were properly managing our water supplies," said Don Heiman. The site also offers educational programs, technical assistance, a searchable database to create custom maps of water resources and narratives describing potential contamination sources.



Employee Trivia Answer

Ivan Weichert (KITO) is the employee who is on the board for Habitat for Humanity. Ivan was a home builder in the Topeka area for 16 years. He was also president of the Topeka Home Builders Association, and of the State Home Builders Association. Thank you for allowing us to use you for our

employee trivia question. Ivan wanted us to understand he is not a trivial employee though.

January Question:

Often times when we think of people in the armed forces we think of men, but many women serve in the military. The fighting men and women

in the service perform the same duties, and receive the same pay, no matter what the job is. The military gives everyone perfectly equal status.

We have a female in DISC who served honorably in the United States Marine Corp, the toughest branch of the service. Do you know who that is?



Habitat for Humanity volunteers at work.

Corky's Retirement

Here are some of the pictures taken at Corky's retirement party. We're sure it is difficult for the people in the BOT storeroom to accept that he is gone. Corky was here so long, he was like part of the building. Everyone just took it for granted when they came to work, Corky would be there. You will be missed, Corky.

We understand that Corky came around to visit just two days after his retirement, and he asked us to e-mail him copies of the DISC Newsletter so he could see how things are going. Even though Corky is retired, he will be around DISC in one way or another. Good Luck Corky!



Corky and his wife



Corky and his family

Corky receives a special gift from Keith Meyers



Corky and his co-workers



Corky, Wife, & Secretary Glasscock



EMPLOYEE INFO



January Birthdays

Thomas Heikes	Charlotte Thompson	Cory Jager
Linda Schramek	Janel Johnson	Jim Parker
Mary Grace	John Brown	Anna Polter
Dan Swearingen	Alicia Pierce	Bob Bernatis
Jenney Hahn	Gretchen Hefner	Dornella Ortega
Rene Arce		



New Employees Welcome Aboard!

Jason
Stewart;
Mailroom
Started
12/10/01



Jim
Arnold;
BIS
Started
1/7/02



Deaths

Linda Schramek's Boyfriend

Wilma Richardson's Brother-in-Law

Jerry Senne's Mother

Emily Copeland's Grandfather



Please Accept Our Deepest Sympathies and Condolences.

We're on the web!
<http://da.state.ks.us/disc>

Meeting Our Customers' Needs

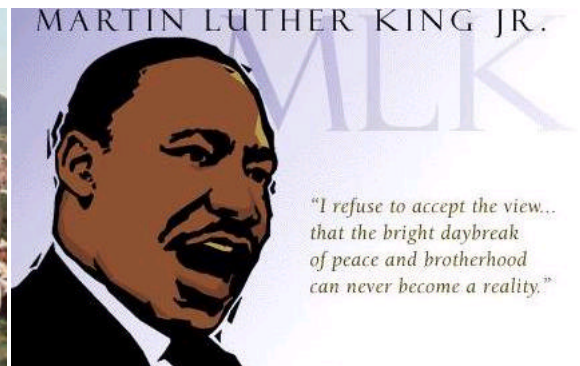


HAPPY NEW YEAR

***Let's all do our best to make 2002 the best year ever!
Each of us can strive to be the best family member,
friend, employee, citizen and individual possible.***

***Perhaps some good will come from the tragic
events of the past year. Already our political parties
have agreed in many areas concerning terrorism,
maybe this is the year they will agree on other im-
portant issues.***

***A new year can mean a new start in the rest of our
lives. Remembering things from the past that help
us get along in life and work, and forgetting about
past things that hinder us.***



Martin Luther King Jr.

In 1929, civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. was born in Atlanta, Georgia. The black civil rights leader, minister and Nobel Peace Prize recipient (1964) was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee, on April 4, 1968.

King, Martin Luther, Jr. (1929-1968), an African-American Baptist minister, was the main leader of the civil rights movement in the United States during the 1950's and 1960's. He had a magnificent speaking ability, which enabled him to effectively express the demands of African Americans for social justice. King's eloquent pleas won the support of millions of people--blacks and whites--

and made him internationally famous. He won the 1964 Nobel Peace Prize for leading nonviolent civil rights demonstrations.

Martin Luther King, Jr., Day is a United States national holiday honoring the birthday of civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr. The holiday is observed each year on the third Monday in January. King's actual birthday was Jan. 15, 1929. On Martin Luther King, Jr., Day, most government offices and schools close for the day, but many private businesses remain open.

A campaign to establish a holiday honoring King began soon after he was assassinated in 1968. In 1983,

Congress made his birthday a federal holiday, first celebrated on Jan. 20, 1986. Today, the holiday is observed by the federal government and by nearly every state.

